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12 O'CLOCK, M.

WASHINGTON.

RELATIONS OF PORTER AND FARRAGUT.

Drake's Reply to Schurz—Harsh, Vindictive and Severely Personal—A True Bill Found Against Roderick Random Butler—A "Snake" in Senator Fenton's Resolutions Regarding the Customs Revenue Service—The Claims Against Venezuela—Direct Charges of Fraud Against the Commission—The Trouble Among the Knights of Pythias—A Suit Instituted at Baltimore.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 16, 1870.

The Relations of Porter and Farragut.

The following letters put a different aspect upon the relations between Admirals Farragut and Porter than has of late been accepted as true. The first is from Farragut to Porter:

NEW YORK, June 26, 1870.

MY DEAR ADMIRAL: I have received your letter of the 25th inst., and hasten to thank you for your kind suggestions in reference to the Tashpoosa. As you truly observe, I will be much more interesting to me at this warm season to travel in this vessel to Portsmouth, where I propose spending a few weeks with Commodore Pennock and his family. My physician says a decided change in the mountain air will be decidedly beneficial to me, and I do not doubt that this little trip will be of that kind, and I hope that this attack may pass off, though he would still have a continuation of his sufferings. Please telegraph me on the 10th or 11th of his death. Convey to Mrs. Farragut my deep appreciation for the warm interest she manifested while attending his bed of sickness. I still hope to may recover to be her happiness for some time at least. With best wishes to yourself and Mrs. Pennock, I remain, very truly, your friend, D. G. FARRAGUT.

To Commodore Pennock, United States Navy.

Drake's Reply to Schurz.

There was a large audience in the Senate Chamber to hear Mr. Drake in reply to Gen. Schurz. The House adjourned early, and there was a large representation of the members on the floor, which neither the galleries or audience below were held as closely as by the speech of yesterday. From first to last Mr. Drake was harsh, vindictive and extremely personal. He began by a repetition of the failure last night to explain his opposition to Mr. Rollins in 1857, because his election would enhance the system of slavery, and repeated the paraphrase of the Porter excuse. Since Ben Butler was the "hand-organ" monkey illustration of the effect of his vote in the impeachment trial, there has been no such reaping heard for any beast of burden in the halls of the Senate. The straining after dramatic effect was painful to all who listened with the Senate, and this was continuous through the speech, having been prepared for some days, was not an answer to the charges of Gen. Schurz, nor did it attempt to meet or even to deny the startling exposure of the political manipulators made by his colleague. While denouncing the Brown party for its course on enforcement, he left out of sight the whole force of his words by claiming that he himself had originated the proposition to put an end to disfranchisement at the opening term of the Legislature. Against his colleague's assertion that Drake had made proper objections upon the civil service, Mr. Drake's mindset flashed the startling query from all office holders. A most significant commentary upon the speech was the fact that at 12 o'clock he was on the floor engaged with Cameron, Chandler, Frazer, and three or four others in a most exciting "side politics." After having informed the Senate, toward the close of his speech, with an air of victorious delight, that he had completely unnerved by a Democrat, and the Senate would thank his colleagues for it, the disappeared to be a very general feeling that the formal valedictory he saw fit to deliver upon the occasion of his voluntarily yielding his place to a Democrat was in exceeding bad taste, for the only one on record. It is that the debate upon General Schurz's resolution will not be continued. If this, he will speak once more, closing the debate.

Roderick Random Butler Indicted.

The Grand Jury to-day found a true bill against Representative Butler, of Tennessee, for forgery in the case of endorsing a note for a former position. A bench warrant will be issued to-morrow for his arrest.

A "Snake" in Fenton's Resolutions.

One of the resolutions Senator Fenton had passed through the Senate very quietly a day or two since, turns out to be a move on his part against those the administration is placing in control of the New York Custom House, and various ramifications of its business. By the terms of the resolution the Committee on Retrenchment is directed, among other things, to particularly report on the present system of practice in relation to the mode of housing business at the port of New York, also in relation to what is commonly known as the "special deputy collectors," and the force of goods while in custody of the Government. This is understood to be aimed at the old firm of Lott, Stocking & Co., and the object of Senator Fenton is to trace certain relations which he claims exist between this firm and persons in official position in Washington.

Frauds in Connection with the Claims Against Venezuela.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations heard the statement to-day of Mr. Partridge, late United States Minister to Venezuela, in regard to our claims against that country. He does not hesitate to charge fraud on the part of those urging the President to raise an award of from $5 to $7 million dollars, and he will shrink from direct charges of dishonesty on the part of members of the Commission which had the decision of the claims.

The Knights of Pythias.

Legal proceedings of great interest to secret societies were commenced yesterday in the Circuit Court of Baltimore, being a suit filed by a certain individual belonging to the order of Knights of Pythias to enjoin certain others from forming a new order of the same kind in the State of Maryland. This action grows out of a serious difficulty which has existed for various grand lodges of the country, numbering some 125 000 members, caused originally by the assembly of certain members of the Supreme Lodge at its session in March last, in the assumed power to annul a rival order which was then being established. was hostile, and calling upon all members thereof to renounce their obligations and resign. This was followed by the passing of certain resolutions by the Supreme Lodge in session in March last, which assumed that such a rival order which was then being established

The Daily Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1870.

The San Domingo annexers are pretty confident of "putting through" at an early day a resolution for accomplishing what they are not strong enough to accomplish by treaty. A treaty requires two-thirds of the Senate in its favor, but annexation by resolution can be accomplished with a bare majority vote in each House. This the annexers profess to be sure of.

It is asserted by the Philadelphia *Ledger* that the reports of negotiations between the Pennsylvania Central and the New Jersey Roads are substantially correct, the delay in the consummation arising only from the hesitation of the former to assume the contingencies of certain claims which the State of New Jersey has made as to certain lands owned and occupied by the roads in Jersey City, the amount of said claims being about half a million dollars.

With the appointment of General SCHENCK as Minister to England our Government yields the point heretofore insisted on, that the Alabama negotiations shall be conducted in Washington. The new Minister will have large powers and the negotiations will be conducted by him in London. At the very least this is a high compliment to General SCHENCK. In this connection it may be stated that a certain class of merchants in New York profess to fear the consequences of the new appointment lest it lead to a misunderstanding with England.

Papers of a certain class have expended a large amount of indignation over the report that General GRANT had tendered the Navy of the United States, and nobody knew what not else, to the Czar of Russia to fight his battles with, in case he got into a war with the allied powers. So ridiculous a report few persons of sense believed for a moment, but it was something relishable to the shouting sort of the opposition. It seems, however, that a denial has been thought proper at Washington, which is as emphatic and broad as language can make it.

Philadelphia has had its census taken a second time, and now the order for retaking the census of New York has been given. There is probably just as much reason for charging incorrectness in taking the census of Pittsburgh as in either of those cities, and why shall we not have a rehearing? Not questioning the enumeration of the inhabitants, we think it would not be difficult to make a case in regard to our industrial statistics, in which we have the greatest interest. As the Government appears disposed to be accommodating, why should not the application be made? It is of far greater importance to the country at large to ascertain the correct statistics of this great manufacturing district than what is the exact population of New York or Philadelphia. We intend to charge unfaithfulness on no one—incompleteness is the necessary result of the method adopted for collecting facts of this nature.

THE CASE OF GOVERNOR VANCE.

That ZEBULON B. VANCE, United States Senator elect from North Carolina, is ineligible to a seat in the Senate of the Union, or even in the body which chose him to his new position, must be plain as the sun at noonday to anybody familiar with the provisions of the third section of the Fourteenth Amendment. As a member of the lower branch of the Thirty-sixth Congress, who subsequently engaged in rebellion against the General Government his exclusion is a foregone conclusion, unless Senate and House should each, by a two-thirds vote, remove his disability—a contingency highly improbable.

The singular and significant part of the whole case is, that not only must VANCE himself have been fully acquainted, at the time of his candidacy before the North Carolina Legislature, of his disqualification, but those who voted for him must have been equally familiar with it. Why, then, we may ask, should both he and they be disposed in the course which was taken? Are not accustomed to court certain ecomfiture and humiliation. Even the bravest of the brave have no keen desire to head forlorn hopes. The last time the ex-Governor was in Washington, he was there as a prisoner; why should he return to the city of his incarceration with the sure prospect of rebuff?

We think we can answer this question. He expects to reap a subsequent advantage from his rejection. He belongs to a class of sensitive irreconcilables. Many men have sought a pardon and had the disability he labors under removed, but he has scorned to ask for any favor, and now declares that nothing but the compulsion of his position would induce him to unbend in the least from his past attitude. In thus coming before the public again, he is the representative of that Democratic idea which has been so persistently thrust into notice, that the reconstruction measures of Congress are unconstitutional, and the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments null and void. A new attempt is to be made to fix this issue into prominence before the country, through elaborate discussion upon the floor of the Senate, with the double view of learning its impression upon the masses of the people, so as to determine its practical value as a plank in the Democratic Presidential platform in 1872, and to serve as a weather-vane to discover the drift of sentiment in the ranks of the party itself. The whole is a scheme of the fire-eating politicians of the South, combined with the extremists of the North.

While it would not be wise or politic to tolerate the admission of a man to the Senate who was known at time of his election to be expressly disqualified by the supreme law of the land, and who permitted himself to be chosen in the spirit of defiance, we nevertheless think the time has arrived when the passage of a general amnesty bill would be an act of expediency. The day has gone by when such persons as VANCE and his confreres could be considered dangerous to the preservation of the Union. The exclusion from office of such as he, by specific constitutional providement, clothes them with a dignity and importance which they do not deserve; for it is regarded by many as a tacit acknowledgement that the General Government considers them men to be watched and feared. Besides, it gives them numberless opportunities to kindle smouldering resentments into new flames, and to keep alive prejudices and recollections that otherwise would soon die out of themselves. A general removal of political disabilities would wrest away from these irreconcilables all the little electioneering capital they possess, and soon consign them to an obscurity they could not avoid, or else compel them to an open and manly acceptance of the situation, with an internal recognition of their impotence. The objurgations of the vanquished are already beginning to die away into murmurs, and those who spend their time in searching through the abandoned Confederate camps for relics and memorials are becoming fewer and fewer. Every passing day more and more cools the passions and dims the vividness generated by four years of sanguinary strife, and it is neither politic nor wise to give aid and comfort to the forces that restrain, however little, a tendency abounding with such excellent results. It is desirable that an end be put to all alienation between North and South as soon as possible. In consummating this work, we have a powerful ally in the profitable interchange of trade which has sprung up between the sections, for nothing else so surely and quickly heals political wounds and brings about permanent social reconciliation. Slavery, the great bone of past contentions, excitement and bitterness, is dead and buried, and we may now safely trust to time and the amenities of intercourse to obliterate what remains of antagonism and animosity. To borrow a figure from inanimate nature, the eruption of the volcano is over, and while we see occasional puffs of smoke emitted from the crater, and now and then hear strange muttering noises within, these are merely the signs that the great convulsion is subsiding into fast approaching quietude, repose and safety. The lava has lost its power to harm.

Senator Cameron and others propose starting a bank in Savannah, Georgia, with a capital of $5,000,000.

KING WILLIAM'S FIBBY.

Every reader of King WILLIAM'S proclamations and dispatches must have received a very decided impression concerning the piety of the old monarch. It is true that the expressions of devout thankfulness with which he accompanies his reports of victories gained do not command equal admiration or respect from all. As may be imagined, scoffing Frenchmen perceive in them only subjects for laughter, or evidences of royal hypochrisy, while the comments made upon them by Frenchmen of a religious temper, are sometimes almost indicrous in the helpless mystification they display. In the celebrated article on "Germany, France and England" in the last Edinburgh *Review*, even Mr. GLADSTONE, a very religious man, indulges in a savage sneer at the language to which we refer. He mentions "the piety of the King of Prussia—which we believe never failed him during the Danish transactions"—with manifest contempt either for its sincerity or its intelligence. And additional pungency is imparted to the sneer by the connection intimated between the piety of the monarch and the "un-Pharisaical policy of the Chancellor of the Confederation." With reference to the entire sincerity of the old King's religion those will hardly doubt who candidly study his whole character. The man perhaps belongs rather to former ages than to the present, and would find himself perfectly comfortable and at home among his ancestors in the early part of the eighteenth century or earlier. When he was crowned, he boldly informed his subjects that he had received his right to reign over them from God alone and held himself accountable only to Him for the exercise of his office. It is also well known that, in his escape from an attempt to assassinate him a few years ago, he recognized an immediate interposition of Providence in his favor, and interpreted the miracle as a sort of divine annunciation of wonderful things to be achieved by, or through him in the future. It must be admitted that the events of the last six months have not been of a character to cast doubts upon the justness of such anticipations. Then, we are told apparently upon good authority, that unlike some other members of his family, the King has always abhorred and repelled those sceptical or rational speculations, so common among his countrymen, the tendency of which would be to dispel the illusions of divine right, and to destroy the simple faith in which he finds so much comfort. It is interesting to learn that the devout expressions of the Prussian King, which have given rise to such various comment in Christendom, have made a profound impression upon the Mohammedans of Algiers. In an appeal addressed to him by prominent Mussulman subjects of France to be delivered from the sway of "a people without religion and without faith," the petitioners draw encouragement from the fact made known to them by the journals, that "your Majesty thanks the Lord, the Highest (to whom be praise), for the favor which has given you victory and made you the mediator of the conquest of your people, and of the annihilation of the tyrannical and blinded French nation." "The greater the thanks, the greater will be the favor," say the petitioners. The document appears genuine. If a mere invention, it was skilfully contrived, as the theological tone of the royal dispatches is in perfect accordance with the Mohammedan usage, and would undoubtedly make upon Mussulmans the very impressions represented in the petition. That the style is rather Mohammedan than Christian may indicate the superior piety of the followers of the prophet who go to war, or the fact may merely show that the Dutch king desired to secure Oriental engage in war are more timid in the use of the Divine name. Less sure of the Divine approval, they shrink from taking the LORD'S name in vain.

A Coal Panic in Cincinnati and How It Is Made.

Cincinnati is excited over an alleged "ring" of the coal market by a "ring" that the *Commercial* is to be about. That journal not only insinuates that the ordinary coal cart, supposed to contain nearly five bushels, rarely holds that amount, but further puts forth that as rate the price is too high, except when a rise brings coal "down" in two senses—from Pittsburgh and in price. The *Commercial* also declares that a combination of the dealers at any time can produce a coal panic, and the commodity made to sell at fancy prices, and thus tells how the coal business of Cincinnati, Covington and Newport, amounting to 25,000,000 bushels yearly, is managed:

"The price is fixed by a census of Pittsburgh shippers, who come down here and 'put up' at the Broadway Hotel, where they meet and agree upon the figures. The first shipper that arrives after the first barges or lots of coal that arrive are bought by a Cincinnati dealer for the lowest possible figure, of course. The purchaser takes a receipt and shows it to the next shipper over, and so on, so that the first buyer to cast doubts upon the justness of such and such rations. Then, we are told apparently upon good authority, that unlike some other members of his family, the King has always abhorred and repelled those sceptical or rational speculations, so common among his countrymen, the tendency of which would be to dispel the illusions of divine right, and to destroy the simple faith in which he finds so much comfort. It is interesting to learn that the devout expressions of the Prussian King, which have given rise to such various comment in Christendom, have made a profound impression upon the Mohammedans of Algiers. In an appeal addressed to him by prominent Mussulman subjects of France to be delivered from the sway of "a people without religion and without faith," the petitioners draw encouragement from the fact made known to them by the journals, that "your Majesty thanks the Lord, the Highest (to whom be praise), for the favor which has given you victory and made you the mediator of the conquest of your people, and of the annihilation of the tyrannical and blinded French nation." "The greater the thanks, the greater will be the favor," say the petitioners. The document appears genuine. If a mere invention, it was skilfully contrived, as the theological tone of the royal dispatches is in perfect accordance with the Mohammedan usage, and would undoubtedly make upon Mussulmans the very impressions represented in the petition. That the style is rather Mohammedan than Christian may indicate the superior piety of the followers of the prophet who go to war, or the fact may merely show that the Dutch king desired to secure

SECRETARY DELANO writes to Mayor Hall in regard to taking a new census of New York. After refusing the Mayor's offer to have the police aid the marshals in the enumeration, he says such action would not be legal. Secretary indicates that any measure to have New York make a better showing of population, in proportion, than other parts of the Union, affects the distribution of representation among the States, and "I do not perceive reason for giving such preference to one State over another." The Secretary acknowledges that a census, under the existing law, "is officially but an approximation to the population, and sagely says:

"For the department to take measures to guarantee in point of time and accuracy that it will carry the representative population of one State up to the highest point, while leaving other States to the operation of causes which, under enumeration protracted, one hundred days, from the 1st of June to the 1st of July, in low by her down the Illinois river. The Courts before found that the loss was occasioned by the collision of the steamboat with the Pier in spanning the river, against which it was forced by a strong diagonal current. The loss was, therefore, charged to the unavoidable dangers of navigation, and the libel was dismissed. The appellant insisted that the steamer had no special lookout, but the Court held that there was a sufficient lookout, and that the absence of a special one had nothing to do with the accident, which, it is said, was occasioned by the violence of the cross current, due to the great rise of water in the river at the time. Mr. Justice Bradley delivered the opinion of the Court, affirming the decree of the said Court, with costs.

SMALL NOTES.

The "Mystery of Edwin Drood" has induced two London gentlemen to start on an exploring expedition for the purpose of finding the mysterious opium-smoking establishment described therein. After inquiring of a policeman, they found it up several flights of stairs. In the smoking room, on a large mat, were one Chinaman, a Malay and a Lascar. They were all smoking the deadly narcotic, and this was their *modus operandi*: The opium is first, by some peculiar process, brought to a lump and placed upon a piece of matting. A fire, a saucepan, a basin and some water are then brought into the servi, and the final result is that the opium is turned out, a beautiful, soft, black extract, not much thicker than treacle. The pipes have a stem about fifteen inches long, most resembling and probably made of cherry-wood, and are as thick as a large-sized ruler. They do not taper at either end, so that a fairly big mouth is essential to all who would indulge in the practice. The bowl, in the best pipes, is fixed about three inches from the end of the stem, and is removable. It is quite closed up, except a little touch-hole over which the opium is smeared, after a little piece, much smaller than a pea, has been inserted to burn in the flame of a candle, being held meantime, and twisted round on the end of a long, thick needle. It is necessary that this touch-hole be constantly presented to the flame while the smoking proceeds; but the preparation and lighting seem to make an almost endless occupation.

These gentlemen tried the operation themselves, and to one of them the room seemed "all of a tremble." He felt the effects for several days, and they were very hot and pleasant. He could come out they encountered a woman whosays she is the only opium-smoking woman in London. According to her testimony there are no pleasurable sensations in the habit, "but it kills pain." All the marvelous dreams talked of by the uninitiated, are simply humbug. The two gentlemen believe they have found the veritable room described by the lamented Dickens.

Bismarck helped Russia indirectly in the suppression of the Polish rebellion of '63. Russia reciprocated the favor in 1864 and 1866 during the Schleswig-Holstein and Austrian wars, so that Bismarck was able to send all his troops to the *point* without any anxiety over its eastern boundaries. Bismarck desired Russia's neutrality in the present war. Gortschakoff wanted part of the treaty of '56 abolished. "Very well," says the German, "I'll not interfere." Russia promised also to prevent Austria from interfering twixt France and Prussia. Now it could move his two corps, which had been stationed on his eastern frontiers, to the east of Vienna. But, behind even this was not to be known, nor was Russia's demand to be made until there was peace. Thiers spoiled this part of the programme. Russia thought he would accomplish his ends when he began to arm in anticipation—began in order to announce her secret. Theirs failed, but Russia had already sent off its dispatch to Constantinople, and the minister there had agreed only to company. The English Ambassador at St. Petersburg received serious dispatches from Constantinople—in fact the "cat was out of the bag," and mewing in such an outrageous manner, that all Europe and part of America heard. And thus came about the terrible hellabaloo that is pushing down thousand of armed Muscovites to the frontiers of Poland, and is likely to produce such a commotion in the musical, quiet, grape-shot and cannister as the world never heard, though the German press think not. Another theory of the *mélange* is based upon the hypothesis that Alexander II.'s personal love for Edward William I.I.; but who ever heard of the personal attachment of sovereigns swaying their political course?

They have a system of "cumulative voting" in England by which, if there are five or six vacancies, the elector is entitled to cast five or six votes, all for one candidate. Through this system the Catholics have carried the school elections in Manchester, and some districts in London. In Manchester, where fifteen members were to be chosen, and where are but 7,000 Catholics, they so "plumped" their votes as to secure the day.

The Springfield *Republican* intimates that Pennsylvania is not a very great manufacturing State after all, since Massachusetts exports of cotton fabrics alone exceed those of the Keystone State. We will not be reduced to the standard of shoes. They are too low. Iron, Mr. Massachusetts, iron is our strongest argument, and if that will not do, we'll add coal, and rivet the two with copper.

Luxemburg is bounded by France, Rhenish Prussia and Belgium. By the 1815 treaty it belonged in fact to Holland, at the same time, however, forming part of the Germanic Confederation which died in 1866. At that time, or rather in 1867, the Dutch king desired to sell out to France, and "Barkis Napoleon was willin'," but Bismarck was not, so marked one on the other end of the string. Napoleon then desired that things might be let lie, which was done, Bismarck not being able just then to up things with enough bayonets. But, being now strong, he contemplates putting things straight—in favor of the Fatherland, and a little more so. Over it is the British lion growls.

Napoleon's declaration that he will not return to Paris with the assistance of military power is about equivalent to the little man's saying that his principles would not allow him to run over a locomotive.

The new Empire of Germany consists of the following States: Prussia, Saxony and twenty smaller States, besides Bavaria, Wurtemburg, Baden, Hesse-Darmstadt (South) and Lichtenstein. These embrace an area of 209,000 square miles, and contained in 1867 a population of 38,517,900 inhabitants. The other great powers of Europe stand as follows: France 36,000,000; Great Britian and Austria 35,000,000, each.

Nearly ten years ago, a great army of Northern hayseeds went down South, and are they came back again, succeeded in only in reclaiming the Union but also in freeing a race of bondsmen; and now another army has gone down to the South, an army of northern ideas the northern self-interest, led on not by the brave captain, Susan B. Anthony—an army whose bayonets are tongues, whose sabres are bodkins, whose daggers are needles, and whose heavy guns are sewing machines. Their *point d' object* was Richmond. They hesitated not like McClellan, they turned not back for Chancellorsville like Hooker, they encountered storm on St. Marie's heights like Burnside, nor did they get sorely tried in the Wilderness like Grant; but they marched steadily on until their destination was attained. They then threw up the first, second and third parallels, but advanced and took the proud old town at the point of the bayonet. There they issued their proclamation, on which was the strange device: "Woman's Rights." Richmond, the cradle of one of the Southern arms to swell their ranks, and declared that with a stupid sickening sort of philanthropy the blacks had been liberated, but the women had not left a single slave, to be driven whither and wheresoever her liege lord, man, listed. After this declaration one or two more came over, and such was the last invasion of the South by the chosen band of Woman's Rights defenders from the North under the leadership of their she-role captain, Mrs. S. B. Anthony; and such was their first proclamation—a fact long to be remembered—a date, December 11th, 1870, to be printed in fadeless colors (warranted not to fade) in the pages of history—a proclamation breathing war to the knife in many a peaceful Southern home. O Smith! was not thy cup of bitterness already full?—too full?

In 1681 Portugal began the manufacture of woolen goods. By strictly prohibiting the importation of foreign cloths she was able in less than four years to compete with England in the world's supply. Not only her own population furnished a superior and cheap article, but they also stocked the markets of all Brezil and parts of other South American States. For more than twenty years money was plenty and the country prospered, but in an unfortunate moment Portugese statesmen allowed themselves to be over-reached by a British Minister, named Methuen. In 1703 he secured a treaty by which British cloths were to be admitted duty-free, provided England imported Port at one-third less tariff than French wines. The result was that in three years the Portugese cloths were driven from not only the country, but the markets; operatives by hundreds thrown out of employment; the country was drained of specie to the amount of $1,400,000 annually for English cloths. Prices of grain went down preceding an inevitable bankruptcy of all departments of trade. Thus in about four years was destroyed a branch of industry which had been about four years a-building up, and which had flourished twenty. Such is *one* of the historical little incidents of free trade.

The system of French weights and measures is the most perfect in existence, since it increases or decreases in a ten-fold ratio like common numbers. The standard of measure is the *metre* which is equal to about three feet four inches. One thousand of these make one *kilometre* or about two-thirds of a mile, hence two of our miles are equal to about three *kilometres* and a *fraction*, as dispatches say. The other denominations are seldom mentioned in our dispatches, its square measure the unit is an *are*, or 0,0247 acres. One hundred of these make one *hectare* equal to 2,47 acres. The *litre* is the unit of liquids, and equals 1 7608 imperial pints. One thousand *litres* make one *kilolitre* or 260 gallons. Weight is measured also by a scale of tens, *grammes* being the unit. This equals 15.44 grs avoirdupois, and 1,000 *grammes* or 650 pounds equal one *kilogrammes*. It is unnecessary to give others since they are seldom mentioned in newspapers.

Why are the names of the streets not on the corner lamps of our city? In Cincinnati and Philadelphia they are painted on the lower panes of glass in brilliant colors so that "one who runs may read." In St. Louis they are not *quite* so visible, yet are they there. Chicago has them painted in white on metal collars which fit the top of the lamp and on every side stand out at an angle of about thirty degrees, so that the light strikes up on them and may one not blind may read. To this plan, however, is one objection: the collars may be loosened, and mischievious persons, so disposed, can climb up and turn them about, thereby making Lake st., Clark st., to the stranger, as has often been done. Let us by all means have the lamps named since, our city is a very difficult one to the uninitiated.

The West Point cadets have set their hearts upon getting clear of the colored cadet, and will more than likely succeed, since they will persecute him to such a degree that living with them will be to him a torment worse than dwelling with a scolding wife. It would have been much better for Smith had he never been sent there to be reminded of his color every day by the scoffs and jeers of his companions.

Colonel Thomas Throp, a prominent citizen of Williamsport, died on Tuesday, in his sixty-fifth year.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Some idea of the literary treasures imperilled by the siege of Paris may be formed from the number of volumes of the chief libraries. The Royal Library contains 1,100,0 0 volumes and 88 000 manuscripts; the St. Genevieve, 155,-000 volumes and 2,000 manuscripts; the Mazarin, 150,000 volumes and 4,000 manuscripts; the Sorbonne, 80,000 volumes and 900 manuscripts, and the Hotel de Ville 60,000 volumes.

A comparative statement of the Internal Revenue collections for the six months of the fiscal year ending December 12th, 1869 with the six months ending the same period of the present year, shows a falling off in the receipts of $1,972,918 71. The seizures reported to the Internal Revenue office yesterday amounted to $4,775, the chief feature of which was that of forty-eight barrels of whisky seized in Florida and valued at $4,000.

The books of the Republican Congressional Committee show that not over one-tenth of the clerks in the Treasury Department responded to the assessments made upon them for money during the late political campaign, which is creditable to the clerks.

The San Domingo resolution will probably be considered in both Houses before the holidays. The President, in conversation with members of Congress, has indicated a desire that this should be done, in order that there may be an opportunity for investigation, report and final action before the 4th of March. The opponents of annexation have no objection to the appointment of the commission, and only ask that it shall be composed of unprejudiced and uncommitted persons.

The New York Fire Marshal's report for 1870, just made, exhibits the efficiency of a well-kept department. The total losses for 1870 were $2,751,863, against $3,316,402 in 1869, and $4,667,376 in 1868. The average losses have decreased as rapidly. In the table of causes it appears that carelessness in the use of candles matches and tobacco caused 236, kerosene and gasoline 157, spontaneous combustion 24, and only 44 fires were incendiary, they being 5.11 per cent. of the entire number, against 6.01 per cent. in 1869, and 10 per cent. in 1868. These figures are most suggestive.

George T. Curtis says his new "New York and London Direct Telegraph Company," which proposes to lay a cable next August from Rhode Island to Wales, can transmit messages for half the present rates, that is $3.75 for ten words.

The profits of shoestring peddling amount to something in the course of time, as appeared upon the death of a vendor of shoestrings in Newark, N. J., whose supposed poverty amounts to $80,000.

Prof. Delafontaine tells the Chicago Academy of Science that Lake Michigan is blue because minute solid corpuscles are floating in the water, and because there is a great deal of chloride of sodium. The luminosity of the Chicago river was also explained by the presence of vegetable substances.

The owners of the new silver mines on the north shore of Lake Superior are disappointed in the yield of the ore. They insured at the rate of $2,000 to the ton, but the two largest lots sent to be smelted and assayed yielded only half that amount. But the owners of the mines shead with their work. About one hundred persons engaged in the mines will winter there.

Small farms in Texas are advancing rapidly in price. The demand for labor is urgent, and reliable men can get really good employment at remunerative wages. Almost the only labor to be had is that of freedmen, whose are generally unreliable.

The Manitou fisheries, the largest on the lakes, have been only moderately prosperous this fall. The catch has been light. The weather has been too rough for gill nets, and the fish had not yet gone in far enough for the trap nets at last accounts.

A certain New York Miss is some on pleasure-seeking. On Thursday of last week she went to a large party in New Haven, and returned by the midnight train to New York in order to attend a matinee. In the morning she was to officiate as bridesmaid, and on that evening went to a party in Elizabeth, N. J., returning the same night. Early the next morning she started for Buffalo, where she was engaged to act as bridesmaid for a friend.

The Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Vermont had not fallen below 20°, something unheard of for forty-six years, at least.

The Metropolitan Railroad Company of Boston reports that under the present fares the receipts have increased $200 per day. Do Pittsburgh horse car companies see any argument in $73,000 additional income yearly?

The Democratic Legislature of North Carolina is making rapid strides in reform. It will soon be Democratic. It proposes to reduce the salary of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to $850 per annum, with no clerk hire and no allowance for fuel. Such a law without an efficient head the system must go down.

The Denver *News* gives a number of instances of the wonders wrought in Colorado farming by irrigation—how by irrigation—how by irrigation it crossed greatly and the cost being only nominal.

Professor Loomis has been before the House Committee on Commerce asking the passage of an act of incorporation for the ship canal bill, to secure the means of testing the feasibility of a new system of telegraphy. He argues that by securing the highest eligible situations in the country and Europe to avoid the disturbing influences, the magnetic current when moves with the earth can be reached, and that communication, without the aid of a wire, can be kept up between this country and Europe.

PERSONAL.

Brassy, the English railroad contractor whose death has been announced, began life a day laborer, and died worth $12,000,000. He was a partner at one time of Sir Morton Peto, but managed to escape from his failure. Two of his sons are in Parliament. One, Leopold, is a public man, and his third son recently married the daughter of Lord Clanmorris, an Irish peer.

Sebastian Seiler, journalist and lawyer, died at New Orleans last week. Expelled from Germany for participation in the works of "Caspar Hauser or the Blind Boy of Nuremberg," he went to Paris, and in the troubles of 1848 a ball in the barricades pierced his lung.

It appears that it was Mrs. E D E N Southworth's pen that suggested the engagement of Mrs. Stowe, which resulted in the production of "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

Senator Sumner says he was present when Secretary Stanton gave the order for the interment of dead bodies of Union soldiers at Arlington; and that Stanton stated at the time the purpose in selecting the site was to forever prohibit the reinstatement of the Lee family. Stanton is nothing if not vindictive. He would, forever, prevent the burial of the bodies of seventeen thousand dead Union soldiers and restore the estate of the arch-rebel Lee, to whom those soldiers owed their title to a grave on Arlington Heights, to the family of Lee. Noble revenge!

I am no Partisan. I find many faults with the conduction of great interests for the dominant party, and deprecate its corruptions, and of late years have labored for its purification or defeat, but if it is to be defeated by a party that interferes with such insane fools and desperadoes of the last holy resting places of my slain brothers as the Kentucky Vampire, then I, for one have still a voice to raise and an arm to strike for the principles for which I have done and suffered something, and for which these dead and comrades of mine now rest on the heights of Arlington.

The blow is not aimed at those dead bodies but at the principles for which they died, and if Senatorry and Garret Davis rub their hands at such a blow, as they will, and as they have, in unison, the survivors of the "guests of Arlington," it argues that the party with which all three stand to connect, must emphatically be composed of the implacables. Again I ask, How shall it be! Are we who survive the shock of war, and carry in our bodies the scars and mutilations of many battles, waged for the preservation of the government, to be insulted in our highest legislative assembly by a political accident from Kentucky who holds his seat but through our mercy and forgiveness, and who, if we are to judge by the action of our plain comrades deposited on Arlington Heights by a nation's care, and embalmed in a nation's tears, is but nobody cares to be scathed to the core of his heaven! And after that are we to be asked for a full exchange of pledges to a party that holds in its bosom the violators of our dead, under the pretense of reversing political abuses? There can be no abuse that can be worse than to solicit the hand with those who would desecrate the graves of the patriot dead. They may vilify, misrepresent and abuse us who live but waste the days and hard earned gold of the people, but the men and true patriots and brave soldiers affiliate with the party to which Vampire Mercury claims to belong purge themselves of it in the next political turn of the political region, where he may find ample material, far less sacred, in which he can indulge his taste as a resurrectionist.

DANIEL LEADER.

December 14, 1870.

Well, any Democrat or papers that have indiscriminately abused the Republicans as the "party of treason" will have to apologize for Gen. Grant's message upon this subject, with this Washington dispatch to the New York *Herald*:—"The House seems to have set its face against the Louisiana bill, and signs are multiplying that the message of the President prevailed this time, if not, it is certain that there are very few votes to be changed. Should the first land grant bill rescinded called forth an avalanche of indignation from the friends of Grant in it met with a prompt rebuke. The members would not be on the lookout for it, and when it was brought forward by Mr. Schneider, was here, he would know me." The sentence left the actor, and every clerk knew him at once—in fact, had known him all the time. Jefferson got his money, and the man who had grieved them the dreadful suspicion of having a corps of clerks who do not attend the theater.

Robert E. Lanzitz, sculptor, who died in New York on Tuesday, at the age of sixty-four, was a Russian by birth, but had lived forty years in America. His best known works are the Kraken monument at Savannah, and his latest, the statue of Gen. George H. Thomas, at Troy.

A distinguished death was that of the Hon. David G. Burnet, on the 6th inst., at Galveston, whose life was full of romantic adventure. Born in Newark, New Jersey, in 1790, the son of Dr. William Burnet, Surgeon General of the Revolutionary army, graduated at Columbia, his early manhood was passed in aiding the South American Republics against Spain. Next he joined the Mexican struggle for independence, and in the contest of 1835-6 was successively a leader of the Anti-Federalists against Santa Anna, a member of the Republic Congress, minister to the South during the war and at its close was elected by the United States Senate from Texas, but Congress refused to admit him. Mr. Burnet was related on the mother's side to Chancellor Kent, of New York, and Judge Burnet of Ohio is a brother.

The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, Hartford, indulged in the ritualism of a surplised choir, whereupon the other clergy of the diocese signed and sent a protest against this to the Rev. Mr. Knight, the offending rector. Bishop Williams withdrew his confirmations for the year, and it now comes out that he himself prepared the protest, which he has "gone back on," leaving the minister to shoulder the responsibility of withdrawing the protest which he wrote for them. As might be expected, the affair has caused a great sensation in Episcopal circles.

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I am not vindictive. I have so far forgiven my country's late treason, as to make no unsolicited apologies for the "force of circumstances" which compelled honest, good men, against their better judgment, to take the part of the late rebellion; and *Lee* this, have been respected by many friends in whose opinions I had hoped to stand well. I had hoped that the var qubbled would accept the arbitrament of the sword, to which they so confidently appealed, as the arbitrament of the God of battles, and, that they would in good faith accept the unprecedented measure of mercy and forgiveness accorded to them by a victory saved from their traitorous designs and that they would be willing to "let bygones be bygone," but it seems that I and all others who indulged in this passing delusion, are to be no longer deceived, for the partisans of the old "lost cause" persist in hurling insults at our dead "comrades" whose very bones are to us more sacred than the living blood in our veins. This effort of Senator McCreery is but one of the signs of the times, and is but worth its current weight as the average avoirdupois of unreconstructed Kentuckians; but it has a consequence which other and better men must meet. Senator McCreery is a Democrat, spelled with a little d, but he claims affiliation with a party that has enough to do to cure up its old sores without undertaking the new blister. He would, forsooth, disinter the bodies of seventeen thousand dead Union soldiers and restore the estate of the arch-rebel Lee, to whom those soldiers owed their title to a grave on Arlington Heights, to the family of Lee. Noble revenge!

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FOURTH AVE. AND SMITHFIELD STREET.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

FRIDAY EVENING, December 16, 1870.

The banks as well as private lenders continue scales of loanable means and it is becoming more difficult to obtain discounts. Accommodations from banks are borrowing down to small limits, and those who are favored are of that class that have imperative claims on the banks—such as keep a large balance to bank until the season comes, when they must employ their money and whatever they require besides in the way of loans. This, of course, must be provided them and when the banks start ready to lend.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Buying.	Selling.	Noon.	Close.
U. S. Bonds '81	117	118	118	117½
U. S. Bonds '62	117½	118	117½	117½
U. S. Bonds '64	107	107½	107	107
U. S. Bonds '65	107	107	107	107
U. S. Bonds '65 new	106½	106¾	106½	106½
U. S. Bonds '67	107	107½	107½	107½
U. S. Bonds '68	107½	108	107½	107½
10-40s	104	104½	104	104
Gold	111½	111¾	111½	111¾

James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, report the United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

	Buying.	Selling.
Gold	111¾	112
U. S. 6s, 1881	118	118½
U. S. 5-20s, 1862	117½	117¾
U. S. 5-20s, 1864	107	107½
U. S. 5-20s, 1865	107	107½
U. S. 10-40s	104	104½
6-20s, January and July, 1865	107½	108
6-20s, January and July, 1867	107½	108
6-20s, January and July, 1868	107½	108
Union Pacific R. R. 1st mort.	90	92
Central Pacific Railroad	92	93
Currency Pacific	110	

—The New York stock market in railway shares was working delightfully in the interest of the bear clique to day. Various cave was heavily, and at one time there was very panicky condition. It closed more steady, but with a mark d decline. The *Tribune* of yesterday, in noticing Wednesday's market, said: The decline in St. Paul stocks, in the face of the large dividend, is accounted for by the report of an injunction to prevent payment of the dividends, which report, however, we have not been able to confirm, and it should, therefore, be taken, perhaps, with a grain of salt. The bearish feeling of the street increases daily, but the operators on that side have apparently but little courage, and the bulls could easily turn the market if they were only willing to increase their already heavy loads.

—The following table, made up from dispatches received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Rooms, Apollo building, No. 89 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of Railway Stocks, Gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

December 16, 1870.	10:30 A.M.	12:30.	1:45 P.M.	2:30.	3:30.	4:30 P.M.
C. & I.	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½
Del. & Hud.	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½
Erie	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾	23¾
Reading	97¾	97	97¾	97	97¾	97¾
Harlem						
Mich. Cent.						
Lake Shore	91¾	91¾	91¾	91¾	91¾	91¾
Ill. Cent.						
Chesa. & P.	104½	104½				
C. & N. W.	74½	74¾	74½	74¾	74½	74¾
Do pref'd.	83½	83½	83½	83½	83½	83½
Rock Isl.	94¾	94¾	94¾	94¾	94¾	94¾
St. Paul	56¾	57	56¾	57	56¾	57
Do pref'd.	79¾	79¾	79¾	79¾	79¾	79¾
Wabash						
Do pref'd.						
Fort Wayne		91¾	91¾	91¾	91¾	
Ohio & M.	30	29½	29¾	29¾	29¾	29¾
Chi. & Alt.						
Do pref'd.						
R. I. & St. P.						
N. J. Cent.		105¾				
Canton		44¾		45¾	45	
W. U. Tel.		74¾				
Quicksilver						
Pacific Mail	44¾	46¾	46¾	46¾	46¾	46¾
Adams Ex.						
Wells F.						
American						
U. S.						
Gold	110½	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾

A comparison between yesterday's and to-day's quotations shows the following changes:

	Thurs.	Frid.	Adv.	Dec.
Central & Hudson	93½	93½	¼	
N. Y. Central	93¾	93¾	¼	
Erie	23¾	23¾		
Reading	97¾	97¾	¼	
Harlem				
Illinois Central				
Lake Shore	92¼	91¾		½
Chesa. and Pitts	104½	104½		
Northwestern	74	74		
Do. preferred	85¾	83½		2¼
Rock Island	96	94¾		1¼
St. Paul	57	57½	½	
Do. preferred	80	80		
Fort Wayne	91½	91½		
Ohio and Miss.	29¾	29¾		
Pacific Mail	47	46¾		¼
Adams Express	44¾	44		¾
Gold	111¼	110¾		½

—Messrs. Brown & Fox, brokers and members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, furnish the following quotations of the closing prices to-day of the most active stocks:

Pennsylvania Central	61
Philadelphia and Erie	32½
Lehigh Navigation	61¾
Catawissa preferred	42½
Oil Creek and Allegheny Railroad	40½
Lehigh Valley Railroad	58½
North Pennsylvania Railroad	68
Elmira and Williamsport	16½
Seventh Ward Passenger	30
Reading	48½

—The Philadelphia *Ledger* says: The Lehigh Valley Railroad Company announce a dividend of 2½ per cent. on the stock, on the 20th inst. This dividend is understood to be in lieu of the canal July quarterly dividend, and it is probably now made in order to save to those changing the Government tax to which the dividend would be liable, if made after the expiration of the present year. Quite a number of companies and some banks have declared their period of dividends semi-annual instead of quarterly for the same reason, and justify themselves on the ground that the Government, by changing its tax rulings under the income tax law, was on the side of the greatest possible tax, with the least apparent regard for equality and liberality. It will be remembered, however, that while the companies making their dividends this month will be compelled to pay the tax on the stockholders, who will be taxed at the same amount of tax, and will lessen their dividends to just the amount of the tax that they now form. If the full and required return is made, the government will receive about the same amount as if paid by the company in a form in which the tax will lose, while the company will save to itself the amount of the tax, and the quarterly July every stockholder, if the income tax is not repealed, must include that dividend in his return of income, and if subject to tax must pay it at the proper time, provided the law is not repealed; but the average citizen will change it to the company if due and payable before January 1, because the new tax imposing civil trends only applies for and during the year 1871."

—JAMES W. KENNEDY, Broker, No. 89 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building), dealer in Government, State and Municipal Bonds; Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Represented daily at the New York Stock Exchange, and buys and sells stocks on a margin or for the same commission and on the same terms as the New York brokers. Will loan any sum of $500 and upwards on collateral or well indorsed promissory notes, or on mortgages on city or Allegheny county real estate.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } FRIDAY, December 16, 1870. }

REMARKS—We have little change to note in the general markets, and nothing relates to prices or the amount of business transacted—the former being, as a general thing, unchanged and the latter moving steadily, surely and safely. In this catalogue, however, we must except the National mill rates for flour, which have been reduced 15c ₱ bbl, as noted elsewhere. Winter has put in an appearance, and from present indications will stay with us for a time. However, the merry jingle of the sleigh bell has not yet been heard in these parts. Flour—As previously reported, the stock on hand in the city and in the stores being amply supplied with all the varieties brands. A fair local demand is reported, with numerous orders for shipment. Grain is in fair supply, and meets with ready sale at quoted rates. The wheat is still in light supply, but the present weather will have the effect of bringing it forward more rapidly. Groceries are firm and unchanged, the recent advance in sugars being maintained. Provisions are plentiful, and the same may be said of all kinds of poultry. Indeed, so far as the local market is concerned it is filled to overflowing, and, strange to say, prices rule high.

The following are the wholesale rates unless otherwise noted.

ASHES—The current rates were: Refined 55 ₱ cent. 55@56c; country 45 ₱ cent. 35@. Potash 7@7½c. Pearls 8@8½c ₱ lb.

APPLE BUTTER—In the market was steady. We can report regular sales at 65@67½c per gallon.

APPLES—The receipts have increased since our last, 167 bbls being the amount received. The current rates were $2 50@3 00 per barrel, as per quality and condition.

BAR LEAD—Sells in a regular way at 10½c ₱ lb.

BEANS—Regular sales made at $1 75@2 25 ₱ bushel, as per quality.

BUTTER—The market was steady. We can report regular sales at 25@27c per pound.

CANDLES—Sales reported at 35@37c ₱ lb.

CHEESE—Prices are steady; Babbitt's Ile Oolite's, 20c; common dairy, 8c; roquo, No. 1, 8c.

CRANBERRIES—Sackett's Hoods barries, command $18 ₱ barrel; other qualities $12@15 00 ₱ barrel.

DRIED FRUIT—Prices are steady; sales of city reduced at 8@8½c ₱ lb.

FEATHERS—Prime to choice quality is fully up to the demand, with sales at the following: Feathers in Quills, 60@65c; halves, 40@45c. Apples 6@7½; sliced 8@9c ₱ lb.

FISH—The market remains quotelled; fresh cod, 6c; mackerel at 33@35c. Pickled is plenty and dull at 2 25@2 50 ₱ dozen.

FRUITS—There is a fair demand. We quote Prunes at 8@9c; Peaches, 12@13c; Apples $3 50 ₱ box; Valencia raisins 16c ₱ pound.

FLAX SEED—The new crop is beginning to arrive; we are reported sales at 68@68½ ₱ bu.

HAY—The market has fallen off, and was firm; with sales on Wednesday of 70 bales at $12 @13 ₱ ton.

FLOUR—Receipts 331 barrels. The current rates with sellers are: White wheat, fancy brands, at $7 50 in bbls, $8 85 in sacks; red winter, fancy brands, $7 in bbls, $8 35 in sacks; sales of Dayton, Ohio brands, $7 00 in bbls, $8 35 in sacks; sales of Morning Star, $7 00 in bbls, $8 50 in bbls, 50@25 in sks. Mill rates: National (white wheat) bbls $7 25; sacks $8 05; Pan Handle (Ohio) bbls $7 00; sacks $8 00; Iron City, Morning Glory, bbls $6 50, sacks $7 90; Palmetto, bbls $6 50, sacks $7 90.

LARD OIL—There is a good supply on hand, and sales No. 1 are made at $1 15; No. 2 $1@1 05; Fall and Cabbage Winter $1 20@1 25 ₱ gallon.

RAGS—The market was steadily with a fair trade demand. Prices range from 4 4½@5c.

MILL FEED—Bran $1 00@1 10; middlings $1 05 @1 10; screenings $1 00@1 20 ₱ cwt.

HOMINY—Prices have declined, with sales reported at $5 00@5 50 ₱ bbl.

HOPS—Are made in a regular way at 35@ 45c ₱ lb.

GRAIN—Receipts, oats, 284 sacks; wheat, 515 sacks; barley, 1 sack; corn, 95 sacks. The current rates were as follows: Wheat, red winter, $1 15@1 20; white, $1 30@1 35. Oats—selects, 50@52c; ordinary sales out of store, 48@50c; from store, 45@47½c. The bottom has probably been reached, and holders are more inclined to part with the stocks. We can report sales on wharf at 45@47½c. Rye 80@85c. Barley—Sales of choice are taken at the usual advance. The stock of No. 1 is well supplied, but the quality, unless prime, ordinary and medium rates 55@57½c.

BAGGING—In fair supply; sales new crop New American cloth at 25@26c; Dundee 22@23c; Domestic 18@20c.

CONCENTRATED LYE—There has been a reduction in the price, and we quote as follows: Sales at $5 75@5 90.

CRANBERRIES—Sackett's Hoods barries command $18 ₱ barrel; other qualities $12@15 00 ₱ barrel.

CHEESE—Receipts 223 boxes. We quote sales of Western Reserve at 18@18½; Ohio factory, 18@18½; Goshen 19@20c; Ohio New 16@16½c ₱ lb.

CORN MEAL—We note sales at 90@95c ₱ bushel.

CEMENT—Sales of Louisville hydraulic at $3 50 ₱ barrel. Phœnix hydraulic $2 50@2 75 ₱ bushel.

CAKE & OIL—Prices are weak, with sales at standard rates. Cake is scarce, in demand and selling by the car load, delivered.

DRESSED HOGS—The arrivals were 98 head, and prices are $7 @7 50 ₱ 100 lbs. Inferior can be had as low as 7@c.

FLOUR—The new crop is fully up to the demand, with sales at the following: Peaches in Quarters, 8@8½c; halves, 11@12c. Apples 6@6 2½c; sliced 8@8½c ₱ lb.

EGGS—The market remains quotelled; fresh Ohio are now retailing at 33@35c. In the country and dull at 2 @2½c ₱ dozen.

FRUITS—There is a fair demand. We quote Prunes at 8@9c; Peaches, 12@13c; Apples $3 50 ₱ box; Valencia raisins 16c ₱ pound.

FLAX SEED—The new crop is beginning to arrive; we are reported sales at 68@68½ ₱ bu.

HAY—The market has fallen off, and was firm; with sales on Wednesday of 70 bales at $12 @13 ₱ ton.

FLOUR—Receipts 331 barrels. The current rates with sellers are: White wheat, fancy brands, at $7 50 in bbls, $8 85 in sacks; red winter, fancy brands, $7 in bbls, $8 35 in sacks; sales of Dayton, Ohio brands, $7 00 in bbls, $8 35 in sacks; sales of Morning Star, $7 00 in bbls, $8 50 in bbls, 50@25 in sks. Mill rates: National (white wheat) bbls $7 25; sacks $8 05; Pan Handle (Ohio) bbls $7 00; sacks $8 00; Iron City, Morning Glory, bbls $6 50, sacks $7 90; Palmetto, bbls $6 50, sacks $7 90.

LARD OIL—There is a good supply on hand, and sales No. 1 are made at $1 15; No. 2 $1@1 05; Fall and Cabbage Winter $1 20@1 25 ₱ gallon.

RAGS—The market was steadily with a fair trade demand. Prices range from 4 4½@5c.

MILL FEED—Bran $1 00@1 10; middlings $1 05 @1 10; screenings $1 00@1 20 ₱ cwt.

HOMINY—Prices have declined, with sales reported at $5 00@5 50 ₱ bbl.

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...e Daily Commercial.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS

Opera House—Vita.
Trimmer's Varieties Theater.
Academy of Music—European Novelties.
Exchange—American Bank.
Plymouth Congregational Church—Rev. E. Y. Gazette.
For Jeweslers in Church.
...ble Watches.
...o Wan ed—J. this office.
...ness...ce—Eighth U. P. Church.
Opening Serv...
Bankrupt Notice—...
Situation Wanted—M. O. ...ake, Newtown, Queens county, N. Y.
Teas, Flour—T. C. Jenkins & Bro.
Clothing—Uffing, Fulmansbee & Co.
Brown's Bronchial Troches.
Knabe's Pianos—Charlotte Blume.
Pianos and Organs—Charlotte Blume.
Pianos—42 Fifth avenue.
Knabe's Piano—42 Fifth avenue.
Wood Sawing Machine—114 Market street.
Holiday Presents—116 Market street.
Complete—Wood Sawing Machines.
For Sale—Perry Deeds, New Castle, Pa.
Meeting—Lodge 449, O. U. A. M.
Open Concert—Reuben Y. M. C. A.
Meeting—Pittsburgh, Virginia and Charleston Railroad Company.
Drug Store for Sale—George A. Kelly.
Real Estate and Stock Exchange—A. Leggate.
Home Stomach Bitters—E. J. Roberts.
Aerated Crackers—Marvin.
Aerated Crackers—Marvin's.
Parch Meal—...dist Church—Rev. I. W. McKeever.
Drug Store for sale—R. E. Sellers.
Fruit Trees—Isaac R. & A. Murdoch.
Gents' Furnishing Goods House—Putnam's
For the Teeth—Brandont.
Residence for Sale—A. W. Lukens.
Drug Store for Sale—R. E. Sellers & Co.
Notice to Householders—Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad Company.
Hair Oils—Charles Abel.
Furniture—J. W. Woodruff & Sons.
Building Lots—Mellon Bros.
National Insurance Company, Allegheny.
Coal—Corey & Co.
Hair Oils—Charles Abel.
Spalding's Glue.
Holiday Presents—R. S. Davis & Co.
Holiday Books—A. K. Hobson & Co.
Cream Ale—Pier, Dunnals & Co.
Bolting and Hose for sale—Hartley, McKee & Co.
New Year—Delaware, Harper & Co.
Mercantile Library Hall—R. J. DeCordova, December 19.
Bronze Mantel and Clock Sets—Tiffany & Co.
Pittsburgh Nickel Plating Works.
Flat Rails for Sale—Hitchcock, McCreery & Co.

CITY MATTERS.

METEOROLOGICAL RECORD.

Observations Made by the Storm Signal Service of the United States Army.

	7:23 A. M.	P. M.	11:23 P. M.
Pittsburgh, Dec. 14, 1870.	4:23 P. M.		
Height of barometer, inches	29.45	29.47	29.51
Change since last report	.00	—.04	—.06
	Var.	Sou'r.	W.
		2	2
Direction of wind			
Velocity of wind			
Character of weather			
Character of wind reduced: Beaufort scale, approximately	D	C	B
Rainfall or melted snow since last report, in inches and hundredths, snow reduced to rain, or melted snow	.000		
State of weather			

NOTE—The snow did not fall in the rain gauge on account of the strong wind, therefore I put it blank, as I could not measure it.

NOTES—In the above reports, only the variations of the barometer since the last report are given; current changes marked here, and throughout the table by the minus sign. Character of the winds to save space, is indicated by letters of the alphabet, as follows: A, just perceptible; B, gentle; brisk; C, pleasant; brisk; D, very brisk; E, high wind; F, high wind; G, strong gale; H, violent gale; I, hurricane; J, most violent hurricane.

State of the weather, in the same way, is indicated by numerals as follows: 1, clear; 2, fair; 3, light rain; 4, heavy rain; 5, snow.

JAMES WEST, Observer Sergeant.

List of Unclaimable Letters.

The following is a list of letters held at the Pittsburgh Postoffice for want of pre-payment of postage, and on account of misdirection. The writers can get them by applying at the Postoffice:

	Cents.
Borland, E., Franklinn, Pa.	3
Loyd, E. M., Hollidaysburg, Pa.	3
Ralfe, J. H., Look No. 3.	9

December 15, 1870.

LADIES' WATCHES and opera chains at Biggs & Hoyle's, No. 6 Wylie street.

A PAIR of gold spectacles would make a nice present to the old folks.

LADIES' FURS—Palmer's, 81 Wood street.

GILDENFENNY, 45 Fifth avenue, sends us *Harper's Magazine* for January. It is an interesting number.

OPERA GLASSES—A pair of opera glasses would make a suitable present to a young lady. Dunseath, jeweler and optician, 56 Fifth avenue has them.

MADE HAPPY.—Mr. John Peifer, residing at No. 21 First street, Allegheny, totally blind from cataract, lately consulted Dr. Stormont and had both cataracts removed. He again sees to read.

A PAIR of gold spectacles would make a nice present to the old folks.

HOLIDAY HATS—Palmer's, 81 Wood street.

OPERA CHAINS.—Husbands don't forget in your purchases, to get your wives a nice gold chain, which are becoming so fashionable. Dunseath, Jeweler, 56 Fifth avenue, has a good stock of them.

TRADE OF THE WEST.—The December number of this excellent periodical has been issued by the publisher, Mr. F. Woods, corner of Wood street and Third avenue. It contains a large amount of valuable matter for business men and manufacturers.

LARCENY OF BOOTS.—Officer Moorhead yesterday arrested John Willis, of Wilmington, Delaware, for stealing a pair of boots from the store of W. G. Hoover's store, No. 28 Fifth avenue. He had a hearing and was committed for trial.

BAROMETERS, THERMOMETERS.—A large stock of barometers and thermometers just been received by W. G. Hunneshagen & Son, 84 Fifth avenue.

HOLIDAY HATS—Palmer's, 81 Wood street.

BRACELETS, and jewelry of all descriptions, at Biggs & Hoyle's, No. 6 Wylie street.

AN UNFORTUNATE MISTAKE.—Alderman Neilly issued a warrant yesterday for the arrest of Marie Mussman, on a charge of disorderly conduct, preferred by Sarah Hall. It is alleged that the accused and the prosecutor live in Birmingham market, when an old quarrel was renewed, in the course of which she called her vile names. A warrant was issued.

HOLIDAY CAPS—Palmer's, 81 Wood street.

PALACE AND KEYSTONE.—Our leading patterns of spoons, forks, &c., in *solid silver ware*, are the Palace and Keystone, both of which are really beautiful. Call and see them at W. G. Dunseath's, Jeweler and Optical store, 56 Fifth avenue.

ALLEGED FALSE PRETENCES.—August Acker appeared before Alderman Koenig, yesterday and made information against Henry Schmaie for false pretenses. The accused, who was and in default of bail committed to jail for trial.

SILVER PLATED CASTORS.—Don't fail to see the beautiful stock of patent double and single combination castors opened up for the holiday trade, by W. G. Dunseath, jeweler, 56 Fifth avenue.

ADMITTED.—W. H. McEnrue, Esq., of Washington, Pa., was on last Monday admitted to the practice of the law in the various Courts of Washington county. Mac is a whole-souled, genial gentleman, and we have no doubt will be a credit to the profession. We wish him abundance of briefs, and the best of health, wherever he may hang out his "shingle."

ALLEGED EMBEZZLEMENT.—W. J. Gilmore, trunk manufacturer, made information yesterday before Alderman McMasters, charging John M. Roberts with embezzlement. It is alleged that between May, 1868, and July 1870, the defendant was employed by the prosecution a large number of trunks, valises, satchels, &c., to sell as his agent, and that the accused had appropriated to his own use $351 of the proceeds of said sales. The defendant was arrested and held to bail in the sum of 1,000, to answer the charge at court.

HOLIDAY CAPS—Palmer's, 81 Wood street.

THE CLAIMS OF MR. FLINN.—The Committee of Councils, appointed to investigate the claims of John Flinn, contractor on the Fifth avenue sewer, for work done which the Court had decided could not be included in the assessment, met on Thursday evening. The entire claim of Mr Flinn, over the amount awarded by the Court, $5,339. The Committee, after examining two witnesses, adjourned until such time as they could hear the testimony of the City Engineer, Mr. Moore.

GENTS' FURS—Palmer's, 81 Wood street.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.—What more appropriate present can you make to your wife, mother, daughter or esteemed lady friend, than one of the improved Singer Sewing Machines. A present which will be a constant reminder of the donor, and which will be appreciated more and more every day in the year. The "Singer" is the most perfect machine made, and is both useful and beautiful. Straw & Morton, at No. 20 Sixth street, have a splendid stock on exhibition.

HOLIDAY HATS—Palmer's, 81 Wood street.

WE take pleasure in being able to inform our readers that there is every prospect of Pittsburgh taking the lead in the most promising and beneficient enterprise of the age. The scheme for a company to build "homes for the people," of which we published a notice some time since, is rapidly taking shape and will soon be an accomplished fact. It is now in the hands of some of the most responsible and influential of our business men, who we understand, will have a meeting to-day at 3 P. M. at the rooms of the Co-operative Life Insurance Company, 131 Smithfield street to arrange for placing the stock in suitable hands.

A PAIR of gold spectacles would make a nice present to the old folks.

Concert of Popular Music.

This has been, in a musical point of view, an unusual season. The concerts so far given have been all successful, and some of the most brilliant are yet to come. We are glad to note a concert of popular music, to come off on Tuesday evening next, at the Young Men's Christian Association Rooms. The programme will embrace most of the airs so familiar to every one, yet almost ignored in programmes of the past for years. Now that Nilsson is singing some of Stephen C. Foster's airs, that have held away for years, why cannot our own musicians do honor to his memory, by reviving some of his sweet songs, that so won the popular ear and touched all our hearts when he was among us? We learn that Mrs. Mellor and Miss Scott, and Messrs. Breed and McCandler, will compose the quartette, Mr. Mellor presiding at the piano. With such talent and such a programme as is proposed, we predict a good concert.

HOLIDAY CAPS—Palmer's, 81 Wood street.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Continuation of the Investigation.

Chief Engineer McElroy's Defense—Conclusion of the Testimony—Arguments to be Heard this Afternoon.

At three o'clock yesterday afternoon, the Fire Commission met, as heretofore, in the Common Council Chamber, and proceeded with the investigation of the charges against the Chief Engineer, John H. McElroy.

Henry Hays, Esq., occupied the chair, and all the members of the Commission were present.

Before proceeding with the examination of witnesses, Mr. Cohen requested the Clerk to read a note from Mr. E. Wormser, in which he states, to avoid misapprehension, that "it was by and with the consent and earnest solicitation of the undersigned (Wormser), that Josiah Cohen, Esq., undertook to conduct this investigation, on behalf of the firm of Wormser, Myers & Co."

ADDITIONAL TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE.

The following additional testimony for the defense was then adduced:

Robert Johnston, sworn—Know Mr. Moore who testified yesterday; saw him on the afternoon of the fire; he said what G—d—n b— McElroy insulted me. He threatened to stop my mouth, but I'm not afraid of him. I've got the documents right here in my pocket," producing a plan. He seemed very much excited. Am a fireman, and considered the apparatus was skillfully managed at the fire.

To Mr. Cohen—Have no idea how long it would have taken to put the fire out, if at all. The fire was raging in the attic when Mr. Moore used the words above cited. Somehow he was excited about the words he had had with the chief.

The high words, sworn—Am foreman of the Independence; have been in the service ten years; was at the fire at the refinery; Mr. McElroy told me, as near as I can recollect, "Get your hose, and run to the water on the refinery." We continually turned a stream over the wall, and tried to put out the refinery. My judgment is that the board piles were in great danger, and if we had not done so they would have did the whole lumber yard would have been burnt up.

To Mr. Cohen—If I had been Chief I would have played on the lumber, as I did not think the fire in the refinery was very serious. My idea not know the tar tank, the still and benzole tank were on fire.

AN ABSENT COMMISSIONER.

Andrew Sims, sworn—Am foreman of the Vigilant; have been firing for twenty years—

Mr. Cohen here remarked that one of the Commissioners was absent, and objected to the testimony.

The Chairman stated that Mr. Mackey had some very important bank business to attend to, and asked leave of absence for fifteen minutes, which had been granted.

Mr. Finney stated that he had agreed to give Mr. Mackey whatever testimony might be elicited in his absence.

Mr. Bayne stated that the absence of Mr. Mackey made no difference whatever. The testimony of the Chief Engineer was not in the trial. That is, the commissioners did not sit as jurors; but as judges on the law and the facts. The absence of a jury would necessitate a suspension of the trial, but not the absence of one of the judges, who might have gotten his brother judges what had transpired in his absence.

Mr. Cohen did not view the matter in that light. He did not think there was any law in the case, but the commissioners were the judges of the facts, they certainly ought to hear them. He would waive the objection, however.

A member of the Commission here moved an adjournment for fifteen minutes, which was agreed to.

In twenty minutes Mr. Mackey returned, when the investigation proceeded.

HOW THE FIRE WAS MANAGED.

Mr. Sims continued—We got to the fire in good time, and went to work on top of a board pile. Had not been there very long till the Chief told us to take our stream round to the oil yard. We threw till the fire was out. There were two of her engines ahead of us, and the Eagle came after us. I think the Chief Engineer acted skillfully in managing the fire. Think I would have done as he did.

To Mr. Cohen—I went on the second alarm; we had been there some fifteen minutes before. If I had been Chief, and knew that the tar tank, the still and benzole tank were on fire, I might or might not have left the lumber yard and played on the refinery. Sometimes we throw on the surrounding property, to save the fire on the place where the fire is burning.

Thomas Rowland, sworn—Am a fireman; was present at the fire; after we had played on the still a few minutes, Mr. Ramsey came around and said if we go and stop the flames in the yard we would have a fire. He seemed to think we were throwing away water.

To Mr. Cohen—The fire was not then out in the still. It was still blazing.

Alexander Ramsey, sworn—Is a manufacturer; the oil refinery was built under my management; think it would have been very bad to have had water thrown on the still while it was blazing. I would have prevented throwing water on it, if possible. The fire in the refinery had been almost extinguished, by their own hose, before the first line of city hose had been laid, and I think a fire would have started itself.

To Mr. Cohen—I do not know what the policy of the Chief Engineer was, and consequently cannot say whether he was justifiable, or not, in playing on the refinery. He did not put out the fire in the board yard and that in the refinery.

TESTIMONY OF MR. BROWN.

James L. Brown, sworn—Am proprietor of the lumber yard; there was some 60,000 worth of lumber in the yard; the oil took fire and streams away from the yard, and directed them on the refinery before the fire in the lumber piles was altogether out.

The witness went on to censure Messrs. Wormser, Meyers & Co., for carelessness, which caused the fire in the first place.

Mr. Cohen objected that the commission sustained the objection as the origin of the fire was not in question.

To Mr. Cohen—The fire had been burning for an hour before I got there, and it was fifteen minutes after I got there before I could order the streams to be thrown on the refinery.

WHAT THE FIRE MARSHAL THINKS.

Joseph A. Butler, sworn—Am Fire Marshal of Allegheny county; was at the fire part of the time; remained until the fire was out in the boardpile, and about out in the still. Have been a fireman since 1845, and think the Chief acted judiciously in directing operations.

To Mr. Cohen—Had